

PRUNUS PLANT NAMED 'LC-52'

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 The application for the new invention Prunus Plant Named 'LC-52' will be co-pending with three other applications entitled Prunus Plant Named 'VVA-1', Prunus Plant Named 'VSL-2', and Prunus Plant Named 'VSV-1' having the same filing date and inventor.

10 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the new and distinct cultivar known botanically as a hybrid of *Prunus* and referred to hereinafter as 'LC-52'. The new invention was bred by the inventor in a cultivated area. It is a hybrid that resulted from a breeding program at the Breeding Station in Krymsk, Russia.

15 The breeding program, at the Breeding Station, was established in 1964 and funded by the government of the former Soviet Union for the purpose of producing new and improved *Prunus* cultivars that serve well as rootstock that is compatible with all other cherries, and that propagate well using softwood cuttings and meristem cuttings in vitro.

20 In 1964 the inventor crossed the female *Prunus cerasus* (not patented) with the male hybrid (*Prunus cerasus* \times *Prunus maakii*) (not patented) producing an induced hybridization in a cultivated area of Krymsk, Russia. The resulting seedlings were planted at the Breeding Station where they were observed and evaluated for ten years. In 25 1974 the inventor selected 'LC-52' from these seedlings. The new cultivar is the result of a hybrid cross between *Prunus cerasus* (not patented) and (*Prunus cerasus* \times *Prunus maakii*) (not patented).

30 The closest comparison plants are the parent plants. The characteristics that distinguish the new cultivar from the female parent are, smaller fruit, bitter fruit and ease of propagation. The new cultivar differs from the male parent by exhibiting wide leaves, larger fruit and smaller overall size. 'LC-52' is unique from all other existing varieties of

Prunus in its ability to serve well as rootstock that is compatible with all other cherries and its ability to remain hardy to -15° Centigrade..

'LC-52' was first asexually propagated in 1974 by the inventor at the Breeding Station in Krymsk, Russia. The method used was softwood cuttings. The distinguishing traits have been determined stable and are reproduced true to type in successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and represent the characteristics of the new cultivar. These traits in combination distinguish 'LC-52' from all other existing varieties of *Prunus*. 'LC-52' has not been tested under all possible conditions and phenotypic differences may be observed with variations in environmental, climatic, and cultural conditions, however, without any variance in genotype.

1. 'LC-52' serves well as rootstock that is compatible with all other cherries.
2. 'LC-52' propagates well by softwood cuttings and meristem cuttings in vitro.
3. 'LC-52' exhibits wide leaves.
4. 'LC-52' exhibits a dwarf habit.
5. 'LC-52' is hardy to -15° Centigrade.

BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT

The following is a detailed botanical description of the new rootstock variety *Prunus* 'LC-52'. Observations, measurements, values, and comparisons were collected in McMinnville, Oregon from the inventor. The foliage, flower and fruit exhibited by this cultivar are of no economic or commercial value, therefore comparisons and botanical descriptions of the foliage, fruit and flower are made for identification purposes only. Mature specimens, as well as bareroot specimens, were unavailable for photographing at the time this document was written. The color determinations are in accordance with the RHS Colour Chart of the Royal

Horticultural Society, London England except where general color terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.

Botanical classification: *Prunus* 'LC-52'.

Parentage: *Prunus* 'LC-52' is an induced hybrid that resulted from crossing the following plants.

Female parent: *Prunus cerasus* (not patented).

Male parent: (*Prunus cerasus* × *Prunus maakii*) (not patented).

Type: Deciduous tree.

Use: *Prunus* 'LC-52' serves well as rootstock for all other cherries.

Soil: All types of soil.

Light: Full sunlight.

Fruit bearing: Moderately fruit bearing.

Crop time: 4 years is required for a rooted cutting to achieve finished product size that is ready to ship bareroot for use as rootstock.

Dimensions at crop time: 3.5 m in height and 3 m. in width at 4 years.

Vigor: 60-70 % of standard using *Prunus avium* as standard (sweet cherry seedling).

Habit: Semi-dwarf and erect.

Hardiness: USDA Zone 5A.

Propagation: Propagated by softwood cuttings and meristem cuttings in vitro.

Rooting habit: Fine and fibrous initially. After 1 year the roots become fleshy and thick.

Time to initiate roots: 6 months are required to develop roots, at 22-25° Centigrade, for both softwood cuttings and meristem cuttings in vitro.

Disease and insect resistance: Normal resistance to disease and insects.

Trunk:

Trunk dimensions: 6 cm. in diameter and 20 cm in height above soil at 4 years.

Trunk bark surface: Glabrous surface.

Trunk bark color: 178A.

Lenticels: Present in moderate amounts.

Lenticel dimensions on trunk: 2-3 mm. in length and 1 mm. in width.

Lenticel color: 198B.

Lenticel shape: Lens shaped.

Branches:

Branch surface: Glabrous surface.

Branch color: 175A.

5 Internode length: 5-10 cm. between nodes.

Branching angle at emergence: 60° angle.

Branching habit: Freely branching with many branches.

Pubescence: Absent.

Branch lenticels: Present in moderate amounts.

10 Lenticel shape: Lens shaped.

Lenticel color: 198B.

Lenticel dimensions: 2 mm. in length and 1 mm. in width on the branches.

Leaves:

Arrangement: Alternate and whorled.

15 Leaf length: 4-4.5 cm. in length.

Leaf width: 3-3.5 cm. in width.

Leaf shape: Oval

Leaf apex: Acuminate.

Leaf base: Rounded.

20 Leaf color (adaxial surface): 139B.

Leaf color (abaxial surface): 139C.

Leaf surface (adaxial): Glabrous surface.

Leaf surface (abaxial): Glabrous surface.

Leaf margins: Crenulate.

25 Leaf division: Simple.

Petiole dimensions: .80-1 cm. in length and 1 mm. in width.

Petiole color: 149C.

Petiole surface: Glabrous.

Leaf stipules: Absent.

30 Leaf pubescence: Absent.

Venation pattern: Pinnate.

Vein color (adaxial and abaxial surfaces): 141B.

Leaf texture: Glabrous texture.

Leaf strength: Moderate strength.

Leaf appearance: Glossy with young leaves involuted.

5 Fruit:

Maturity: Requires 70-72 days to mature.

Dates of picking: Not a fruit crop. Fruit has no commercial value.

Production: Low. Produces a small amount of fruit.

Fruit form: Globose.

10 Stem dimensions: 2-2.5 cm. in length and 1 mm. in width.

Stem color: 144A.

Skin color: 187A.

Skin surface: Glabrous surface.

Lenticels: Absent on fruit.

15 Flesh color: 187C.

Flesh texture: Juicy texture.

Flavor: Bitter cherry flavor.

Aroma: None.

Seed number: One drupe.

20 Seed shape: Round shape.

Seed color: 164B.

Seed dimensions: 2-2.5 mm. in diameter and 2-2.5 mm. in length.

Storage: Not determined because fruit has no commercial value.

Use: Fruit is not recommended for consumption and has no commercial value..

25 Flower:

Arrangement: Solitary.

Flower shape: Rotate.

Bud dimensions: 3 mm. in width and 3 mm. in length.

Bud color: 155C.

30 Time of bloom: Flowers bloom when the plant is 2 years old and the flowers last for 7-8 days.

5 Ovary position: Superior.

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